1861

July 1861:
The remainder of the US (Johnston's) Army at Camp Floyd - (name changed to Fort Crittenden Wed. 6 Feb 1861) were ordered by President Abraham Lincoln to leave Fort Crittenden to return to Washington D.C. & join the Yankees of the "North" USA against the "South" in the Civil War.
Sydney Albert Johnson had already gone east, defected to the "South" & later died in The battle of Shilo as a Confederate Soldier (officer)

Benny now about 21 yrs

Andrew Jenson

Wells president of the Council, and John Taylor speaker of the House.

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in honor of the arrival of the pioneers into these valleys and the founding of Great Salt Lake City. In the early autumn of 1861 the troops marched Eastward and thus ended the famous Utah expedition."

G. S. L. City, July 16, 1861

President Cannon.

Dear Brother—Today commences the sale of all the Government property at Camp Floyd, by auction—buildings, grain, hay, and everything except arms and ammunition, soldiers clothing and wagons and teams. They will move away to the States within two weeks and thus end the great Buchanan Utah Expedition, costing the Government millions and accomplishing nothing except making many of the Saints comparatively rich, and improving the circumstances of most of the people of Utah. You may well believe that merchants and speculators look blue and gloomy enough, and the true Saints feel well in proportion; while some, who think more of money and riches than they do of eternal life feel nearly as bad as Gentiles. Last week the first telegraph pole was raised in the city, and they are now upon the western route, a considerable distance on the State road. The daily mail is in full operation; passengers pass through nearly every day for California and the States, and things generally look lively and very good. Crops never looked better. Farmers are in the midst of harvest but it is feared much grain will be wasted for want of labourers. Cradlemen are asking 3½ bushels of wheat per day for cutting grain and we see very few indeed loafing in the streets. The California emigration which has gone through this season has been heavy, and nearly all appear to be wealthy farmers. The trouble in the States is the chief cause, which is indeed bad; but it is only just commencing; they will have enough of it by and by. As ever your friend and brother,

William Clayton

LDS Millennial Star No. 35. *August* 31, 1861

THE SALT LAKE THEATRE

In July of 1861, excavations began on the corner of 1st South and State street, thus beginning the building of the Great Salt Lake Theatre. William H. Folsom was the architect and Hiram B. Clawson was manager of construction. At this time it was the largest building ever erected by the Mormons in Utah.

As an entire chapter will be presented later on the Salt Lake Theatre, suffice it to say that "Uncle Sam's auction" at Camp Floyd furnished the nucleus of the funds which built this great theatre. It was completed for temporary use March 5, 1862 and proved to be the most cultural playhouse west of the Mississippi river.

?

Col Giles says (Aug 29 1987) that they passed up Daniel Canyon

The only US Soldiers, I know of in this area, were the last of Gen'l Sidney Albert Johnston's Army located at Camp Floyd from 1858 to 1861. They were transferred from Camp Floyd to the Civil War effort in July 1861

They left Camp Floyd & traveled through Utah County & up Provo Canyon to Charleston, through Heber & north to Echo & east from there.

Ref: "Church Chronology" – Jenson p. 65

There were occasional contingents of soldiers coming out from Fort Douglas in SL City to trek out to bivoac in the Strawberry valley and manuver, many yrs. later.

One such group were mostly negro & many young children came out to see negros for the first time – one of whom was Beth Murdock Ritchie (Eldon) who told me this story – RRG.

US Soldiers camped in the meadow {or South of} east of Flag Butte about 1861-2

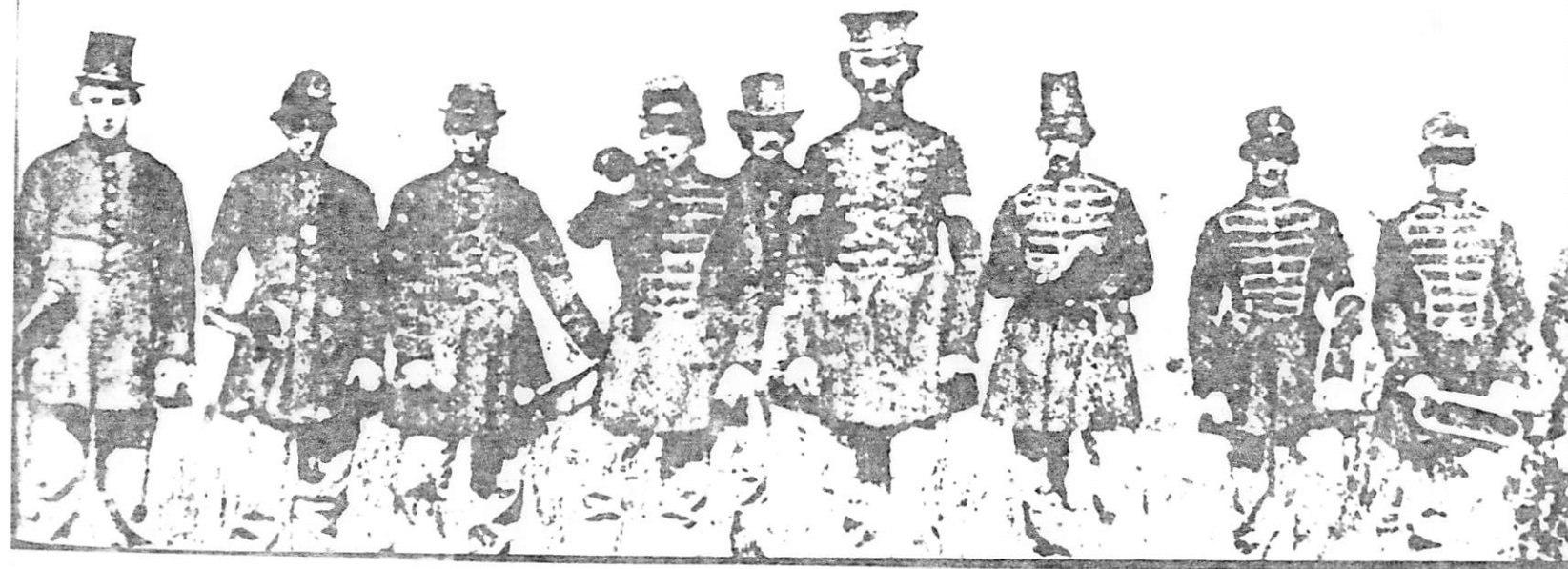
Story told to Dr Green by Bill Baum

Sam Lawry has picked up artifacts (shells, Buttons etc) in that area in years past, from that camp.

We are told by Bill Baum that these Soldiers first painted the American Flag on Flag Butte & Miss Isabell Baum kept it freshly painted ever since. Bill used to help her buy the paint.

Col. Philip Cooke escorted Cumming.

– "Fort Bridger," Gowans & Campbell p 108

Bugle Corps of Johnston's Army photographed at Camp Floyd

p 73 Deseret 1776–1876

General Johnston Arrives. It was not until the first week in November that General Johnston joined Colonel Alexander on Black's Fork. Johnston was a great commander and soon infused new life and energy into the baffled and half dispirited troops. Spurning the idea of departing a single point from the direct route through the mountains, he at once ordered a forward movement to Fort Bridger.

General A. S. Johnston.

– "Making of a State", Orson F Whitney p 109

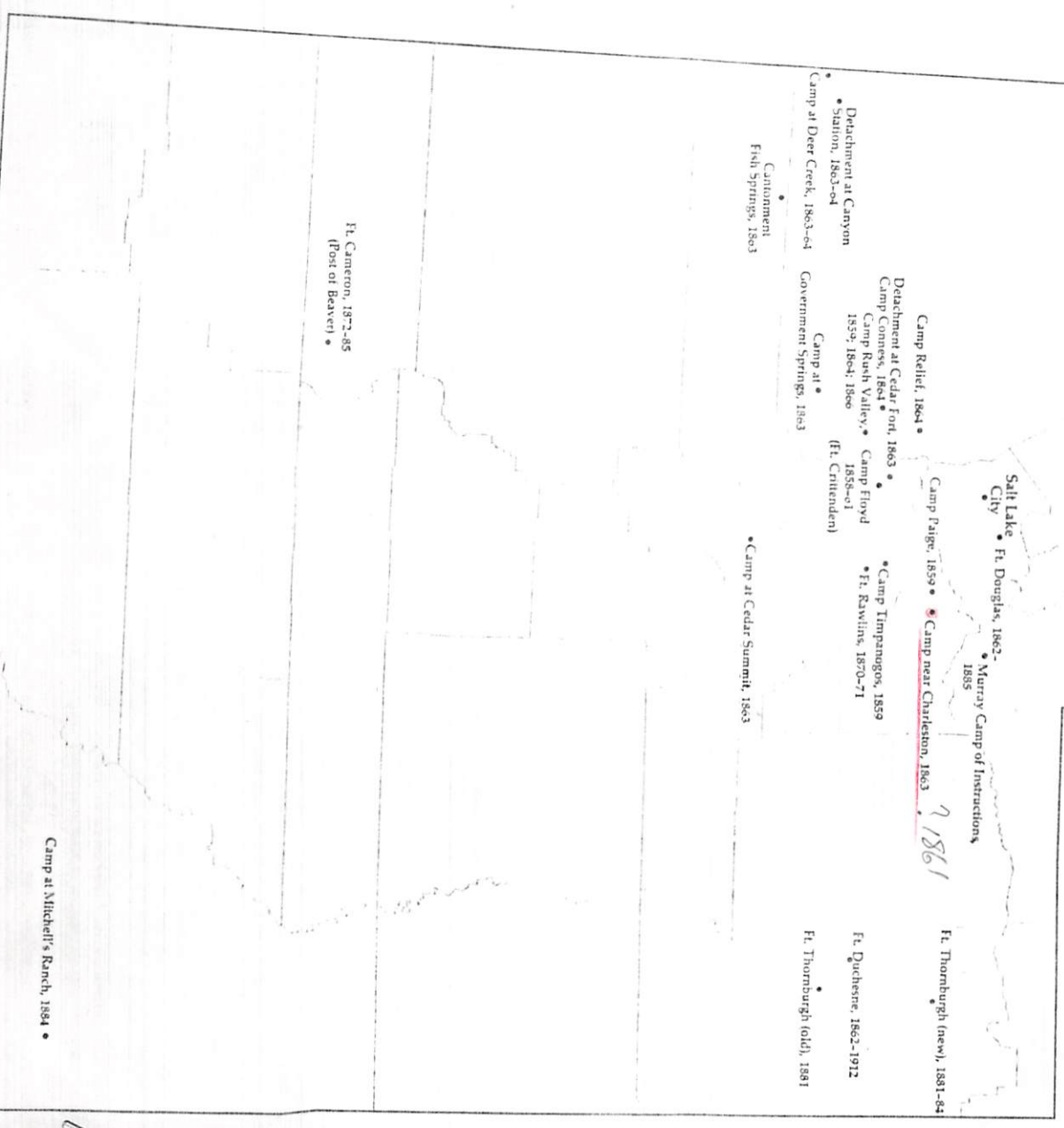
Col. Philip Cooke escorted Cumming.

General Scott, "Old fuss 'n feathers."

and Tenth Infantry Regiments had their sutler trains drawn in a circle to protect the stock. The private mercantile firm of Livingstone and Kincade added its wagons to the scene. Camp Scott may have been hurriedly established as a makeshift winter quarters for a desperate army, but for more than half a year it was a bustling settlement.

Life at Camp Scott

With approximately 2,500 people in the camp facing the extreme cold weather of this high mountain region there was real danger of starvation or death from exposure. There was a considerable supply of bacon, ham, and flour, and some dried vegetables, but many commodities were almost impossible to obtain. There was no milk, butter, eggs, or lard. Sugar and tobacco sold at extremely high prices while the lack of salt was felt most keenly. Brigham Young dispatched a wagon load of salt to the camp but Johnston said he would not accept the gift from a traitor and turned it down. However, some enterprising troops followed Young's drivers out of camp and obtained the salt, which they were able to sell for $5.00 a pound. Several hundred bushels of turnips and other vegetables were uncovered from a Mormon cache that had been discovered. Using these, the soldiers escaped scurvy.

As the weeks dragged by the reserves dwindled in an alarming fashion. When

 Gowens & Campbell "Fort Bridger"

Johnston Army
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Johnston Army

p 18
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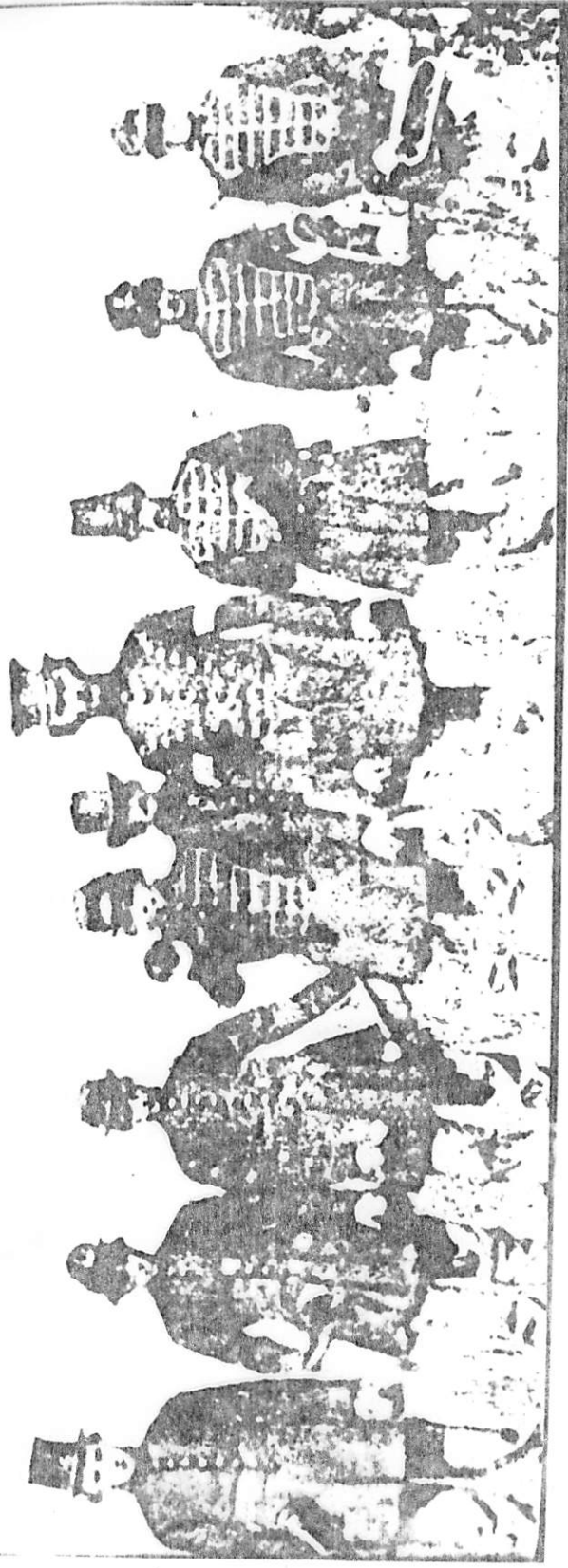
Bugle Corps of Johnston's Army photographed at Camp Floyd

— Deseret 1

settlement, of course, was at Heber City, but there were also two small settlements along the Snake Creek, a number of families at Center Creek, some at Charleston, some in Round Valley or Wallsburg, a small cluster of houses at the Sessions spring and a few at a sheep ranch of Melvin Ross, afterwards known as Hailstone's Ranch, about eight miles north of Heber.

The first county road was established on March 3, 1862, and commenced at the Provo River below Manning's (southwest of the town of Charleston) and ran in a northerly direction following the old immigrant trail through the valley, passing by Melvin Ross' ranch and terminating at the northern boundary of the county known then as the Ross Summit.

Another county road was established April 26, 1862 and ran between Heber City and Center Creek and on to a sawmill in Center Creek Canyon.

Four school districts were also designated in April, 1862. They were district No. 1 to include Heber City; No. 2 at the Center Creek settlement; No. 3, the lower settlement on Snake Creek and No. 4 the upper Snake Creek settlement.

The first valuation of property for the county took place in 1862, and according to the report of John Harvey, assessor and collector, the property value in the valley was $48,350.

Spring came late in 1862 and it was May 4 before any plowing could be done in the valley. The Church leaders who went to Salt Lake City for general conference sessions in April had to travel on snowshoes to get through the more than four feet of snow still on the ground.

Early in 1862 John H. Van Wagoner finished building a gristmill at Snake Creek's lower settlement. Even though there was no way to separate the smut from the wheat and some of the flour made was very dark, the people were still glad for this added improvement. At times that year the river was so high people couldn't get across to the mill. However, Henry McMullin, a ship builder from Maine, built a boat and the grist was taken back and forth on the boat. It was this same Mr. McMullin that built the first sawmill in the valley. It was owned by William M. Wall and James Adams and located in Center Creek Canyon.

Until the sawmill was built, people had used hand-prepared timber for all their furniture and other needs. Now with cut lumber available the rough furniture was quickly discarded.

Many of the people were able to obtain good wagons from the soldiers in Johnston's Army. The army had camped near Utah Lake until the outbreak of the Civil War in the East. They were summoned to return to the Northern Army's camps and so they sold some of their wagons and their supplies very cheaply rather than carry them back east. Many in Wasatch County obtained the wagons as the troops passed through the valley on their eastern trip.

Community life was well developed by 1862 and the seeds of prosperity and growth planted so well by the early settlers in 1859 were already beginning to bear fruit. Living was difficult, but in overcoming privation and hardship these pioneers found a peace and contentment unequalled even in the modern world of conveniences and super-civilization.

About 1860-62

FAMILY HISTORY

Documentation

Age	Date:	Fact:	Document or Source of Information:
	1860 1862	Benjamin A Norris married on Date in Utah	DrRRaymond Green searched FHL Archive #1 & #2 & could not find a FGS on Benjamin A Norris (Search done 6-24-88) Found a FGS on Parents David & Sarah Amber Norris. Another search of Archive #2 was done on 3-26-88 and I found a FGS on David Norris - father of Benjamin Norris, but it did not have Benjamin's wife & marriage recorded.

DR. R. R. GREEN
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HEBER CITY, UTAH
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